

Amendments to the Claims

Please amend claim 6. Please cancel claims 7-15, 17 and 18. The currently pending claims after amendment are listed below.

1. (Previously Presented) A digital camera, comprising:
 - a housing;
 - a digital optical sensing apparatus mounted within said housing, said digital optical sensing apparatus sensing optical images;
 - a first optical member focusing light representing a biometric parameter of a user of said digital camera for capture by said digital optical sensing apparatus, said light representing a biometric parameter of a user traversing a first light path through said camera from said first optical member to said digital optical sensing apparatus;
 - a second optical member focusing light from images of interest to be captured by said digital optical sensing apparatus, said light from images of interest to be captured traversing a second light path through said camera from said second optical member to said digital optical sensing apparatus, said second light path not being coincident in any segment with any segment of said first light path, said second light path encountering said digital optical sensing apparatus at a non-zero angle with respect to said first light path;
 - a processor for controlling operation of said digital camera, said processor operating said digital camera in at least two modes of operation, including:
 - (a) a first mode of operation, wherein said digital optical sensing apparatus senses a biometric parameter of a user of said camera, said processor identifying said user from said biometric parameter; and
 - (b) a second mode of operation, wherein said digital optical sensing apparatus captures and records an image of an object of interest.

1 2. (Original) The digital camera of claim 1, wherein said biometric parameter is an iris of
2 said user's eye.

1 3. (Original) The digital camera of claim 1,
2 further comprising a viewing window for viewing an image of said object of interest by
3 said user;
4 wherein, in said first mode of operation, said digital optical sensing apparatus senses light
5 representing said biometric parameter, said light entering said camera through said viewing
6 window.

1 4. (Original) The digital camera of claim 1, wherein said processor further associates user
2 identifying data with a recorded image of an object of interest, said user identifying data being
3 obtained using said biometric parameter.

1 5. (Original) The digital camera of claim 1, wherein said processor further selectively
2 enables at least one camera function responsive to identifying said user from said biometric
3 parameter.

1 6. (Currently Amended) ~~Ⓐ~~ The digital camera of claim 1, further comprising:
2 ~~a housing;~~
3 ~~a digital image capturing apparatus for capturing a plurality of digital images of respective~~
4 ~~objects of interest;~~
5 ~~a biometric sensing apparatus for sensing a biometric parameter of a user of said digital~~
6 ~~camera;~~
7 ~~a processor for controlling operation of said digital camera;~~
8 a memory, said memory for storing biometric parameters associated with a plurality of
9 potential users of said digital camera;
10 wherein said processor identifies each user of said plurality of potential users of said
11 camera by comparing ~~data~~ a biometric parameter obtained from said ~~biometric digital optical~~
12 sensing apparatus with said biometric parameters associated with said plurality of potential users
13 in said memory, and, responsive to identifying a user, associates respective user identifying
14 information with each digital image of an object of interest captured by said digital ~~image~~
15 ~~capturing~~ optical sensing apparatus.

7 - 18. (Cancelled)

1 19. (Previously Presented) The digital camera of claim 6, wherein said processor further
2 associates at least one camera operating parameter value with each of a plurality of users, and
3 wherein said processor, responsive to identifying said user from said biometric parameter,
4 automatically sets said at least one camera operating parameter to the value corresponding to the
5 identified user.